

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 084494

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:RPGALLAGHER

APPROVED BY S/S - FORTIZ

EUR/WE:REBARBOR

EUR:JGLOWENSTEIN

WHITE HOUSE:MR. CLIFT

P: MR. RAPHEL

EUR/RPM:RHFROWICK

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P 141856Z APR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 084494

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IT, OVIP (PRESIDENT FORD)

SUBJECT: ITALIAN INVITATION FOR PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

1. ON APRIL 7 ITALIAN CHARGE TAMAGNINI DELIVERED TO DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LOWENSTEIN A LETTER FROM LEONE FORMALLY RENEWING HIS INVITATION TO PRESIDENT FORD TO VISIT ROME IF THE PRESIDENT PLANS A VISIT TO EUROPE THIS YEAR. TAMAGNINI SAID ORTONA HAD TELEPHONED FROM ROME TO SAY THAT TWO HOURS EARLIER HE HAD MET WITH LEONE, WHO URGED THE AMBASSADOR TO EMPHASIZE LEONE'S STRONG HOPE THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD ACCEPT THE INVITATION.

2. TAMAGNINI ALSO ASKED ABOUT AN AP REPORT OF A UK PROPOSAL TO CONVERT THE MAY NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING INTO A SUMMIT CONFERENCE. LOWENSTEIN REPLIED THAT THE BRITISH HAD DISCUSSED THIS PROPOSAL WITH US; OUR FIRST REACTION WAS THAT IT WAS A GOOD IDEA, BUT WE WERE RESERVING FINAL JUDGMENT UNTIL FURTHER ALLIED CONSULTATIONS INCLUDING MOST  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 084494

IMPORTANTLY WITH THE BELGIANS WHO WOULD BE HOSTS.

LOWENSTEIN NOTED THE PROPOSAL HAD EARLIER BEEN RAISED AT THE DUBLIN EC MEETING AND LATER IN THE PERMREPS LUNCHEON BUT HAD NOT BEEN TABLED AT NATO YET.

3. LOWENSTEIN SAID THAT IF THERE WERE A NATO SUMMIT, INSOFAR AS HE WAS AWARE, BRUSSELS WOULD PROBABLY BE THE ONLY NATO CAPITAL THE PRESIDENT WOULD VISIT.

4. TAMAGNINI ASKED ABOUT THE AP SPECULATION THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD ALSO VISIT RUMANIA AND YUGOSLAVIA. LOWENSTEIN STATED THAT, AS FAR AS HE KNEW, THERE WERE NO PLANS TO VISIT EITHER COUNTRY IN CONNECTION WITH A POSSIBLE NATO SUMMIT. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Authority:** MartinML  
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